

**In the Claims:**

Please amend the claims as follow:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

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F1  
1. (Currently Amended) Granules containing at least one plant substance, comprising a neutral core having a particle size of between 200 and 1600  $\mu$ m coated with a layer containing the plant substance combined with a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient, wherein the layer containing the plant substance further comprises polyvinylpyrrolidone as a binder.

2. (Previously Presented) Granules according to claim 1, wherein the neutral core consists of a substance selected from the group consisting of sugar, starch, mannitol, sorbitol, xylitol, cellulose, talc, and mixtures thereof.

3. (Previously Presented) Granules according to claim 1, wherein the neutral core consists of a starch/sucrose core in a 20/80 mass ratio, which is coated with 80% by weight of starch.

4. (Currently Amended) Granules according to claim 1, wherein the ~~layer containing the plant substance contains a binder~~ pharmaceutically acceptable excipient used in the layer containing the plant substance is prepared from a solution of polyvinylpyrrolidone.

5. (Previously Presented) Granules according to claim 1, wherein the layer containing the plant substance is coated with an outer layer capable of masking the taste or odor of the plant substance.

6. (Previously Presented) Granules according to claim 5, wherein the outer layer is capable of controlling the release of the plant substance and contains lac gum, PVP, a copolymer of methacrylic acid or a colloidal dispersion of ethylcellulose with a plasticizer.

7. (Previously Presented) Granules according to claim 5, wherein the outer layer is capable of delaying the release of the plant substance and contains a copolymer of methacrylic acid, lac gum or a colloidal dispersion of ethylcellulose with a plasticizer.

8. (Previously Presented) Granules according to claim 5, wherein the outer layer is capable of masking the taste or odor of the plant substance and contains a copolymer of methacrylic acid or hydroxypropylmethylcellulose.

9. (Previously Presented) Granules according to claim 1, wherein the plant substance is selected from the group consisting of garlic, Echinacea, Ginko biloba, ginseng, Harpagophytum, kava, St.-John's-wort, green tea, valerian, Missouri grape, artichoke, hawthorn, burdock, birch, alder buckthorn, blackcurrant, blessed thistle, Fucus, Hamamelis, horse chestnut, balm, Orthosiphon, passion flower, dandelion, horsetail, meadowsweet, sage, spirulina and mixtures thereof.

10. (Previously Presented) Granules according to claim 1, wherein the content of plant substance is between 0.1 mg/g and 750 mg/g weight of plant substance to the total weight of the granule.

11. (Currently Amended) A method of preparing granules comprising coating a neutral core having a particle size of between 200 and 1600  $\mu\text{m}$  with a layer containing a plant substance combined with a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient, wherein the plant substance coated onto the neutral cores is in the form of a dry, soft or fluid extract, and

wherein the layer containing the plant substance further comprises polyvinylpyrrolidone as a binder.

12. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 11, wherein the granules are obtained by powder-coating when the plant substance is in the form of a dry extract.

13. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 11, wherein the granules are obtained by coating in solution when the plant substance is in the form of a soft or fluid extract.

14. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 13, wherein the fluid extract contains from 30 to 40% v/v alcohol.

15. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 11, wherein 5 to 25% by weight of organic solvents are used.

16. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 11, wherein the size of the neutral core is between 950 and 1400  $\mu\text{m}$ , and wherein the plant extract is dry.

17. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 11, wherein the size of the neutral core is between 900 and 1250  $\mu\text{m}$ , and wherein the plant extract is soft or fluid.

18. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 11, wherein the percentage by mass of fluid extract used is between 15 and 25% relative to the weight of the granules.

19. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 11, wherein the percentage by mass of dry extract is as high as 75% relative to the weight of the granules.

20. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 11, wherein the granules are prepared in a pan or in a fluidized air bed.

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21. (Currently Amended) Granules according to claim 4 1, ~~wherein the binder is selected from the group consisting of sucrose, polyvinylpyrrolidone, lac gum and hydroxypropylmethylcellulose~~ wherein the layer containing the plant substance further comprises sucrose, lac gum, hydroxypropylmethylcellulose, or combinations thereof as a binder.

22. (New) Granules containing at least one plant substance, comprising:  
a neutral core having a particle size of between 200 and 1600  $\mu\text{m}$ ; and  
a coating formed by applying,

(A) one or more layers which comprise a homogenous mixture of a plant substance and a solution including a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient, wherein the layer further comprises polyvinylpyrrolidone as a binder; or

(B) alternating layers, wherein one or more layers comprise the plant substance, and one or more layers comprise the solution including the pharmaceutically acceptable excipient, wherein the layer that comprises the solution including the pharmaceutically acceptable excipient further comprises polyvinylpyrrolidone as a binder.

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